

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HB2

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN SWSYGOOD**, on April 16, 1999 at 8:10
A.M., in Room 312-2 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Chuck Swysgood, Chairman (R)
Sen. Arnie Mohl (R)
Sen. Linda Nelson (D)
Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ernest Bergsagel (R)
Rep. Joe Quilici (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Shannon Gleason, Secretary
Clayton Schenck, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 2, 4/17/1999
Executive Action: Amendments

Motion: **SEN. NELSON** moved **RECONSIDER HB000272.ARL.**

Discussion:

SEN. NELSON advised the amendment was not needed.

Vote: Motion **carried unanimously.**

Motion: SEN. NELSON moved that **AMENDMENT HB000254.ATP**
EXHIBIT(frs83hb0002a01) BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD advised the original request was for \$4,000,000.00, because it is a new program this will be a one-time only appropriation.

REP. ZOOK felt this would not do what was intended. **REP. ZOOK** stated this would expand urban areas and not stop development in the rural areas.

REP. QUILICI asked if the money could be used annually or was it designated a certain amount to be used each year. **SEN. NELSON** advised the entire amount could be used at one time or over the term.

Mona Jamison, Montana Agriculture Heritage Program, advised this was a long term vision and the accountability was built into the program.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: **REP. ZOOK** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000270.AGD**
EXHIBIT(frs83hb0002a02) BE ADOPTED. Motion failed 3-3 with Zook, Quilici, and Nelson voting aye.

Motion: **REP. ZOOK** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000278.AGD**
EXHIBIT(frs83hb0002a03) BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Peter Blouke , Department of Commerce, advised **HB 245** required the department to provide services, and this was the authorization for funds.

REP. BERGSAGE1 wanted to know where the money was coming from. **Mr. Blouke** advised it would be from existing fees.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: **REP. QUILICI** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000271.AGD**
EXHIBIT(frs83hb0002a04) BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Mr. Blouke explained this would allow the department to register all post dated check operations. **Mr. Blouke** advised the cost will be covered from registration fees.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD asked if the businesses were unregulated currently. **Mr. Blouke** advised they were.

Vote: Motion carried 5-1 with Bergsagel voting no.

Motion: SEN. NELSON moved that AMENDMENT HB000266.ARL EXHIBIT (frs83hb0002a05) BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Pat Graham, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (DFWP), explained the additional responsibility and stated the funding would be paid by licensing fees.

REP. BERGSAGEL asked if there was a \$5,000.00 fee for expanding over 100 miles from the base camp. **Mr. Graham** advised the fees were adjusted in the House and the distance fee was replaced by a per client fee.

REP. BERGSAGEL stated the \$2,000.00 fee is still in place for opening, and a \$2.00 per client fee. **Mr. Graham** advised that was correct.

CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD asked where the money was coming from. **Mr. Graham** advised the fees were from outfitter fees and general licensing. **CHAIRMAN SWYSGOOD** stated the licensing fee account had been hit hard this session and asked if **Mr. Graham** was concerned about additional fees coming from the account. **Mr. Graham** advised he was and that was the reason for the split.

REP. BERGSAGEL commented fees were assessed and taxes raised in the name of expansion, however that is not what happens.

REP. QUILICI asked where the public comments were coming from. **Mr. Graham** advised the department would collect information required in **SB 334** and provide the information to the Board of Outfitters, who would hold public hearings.

REP. ZOOK asked if the department could implement the fees if the amendment was not approved. **Mr. Graham** advised if the fees were not approved the department would still be required to oversee

the operation. **REP. ZOOK** felt this should be handled as a private enterprise.

Vote: Motion failed 2-4 with Nelson and Quilici voting aye.

REP. BERGSAGEL asked what the current fees on livestock were. **Mr. Graham** advised they were \$40.00 per head.

The committee was recessed until 1:35.

Motion/Vote: **REP. BERGSAGEL** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000279.ASC EXHIBIT(frs83hb0002a06)** BE ADOPTED. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: **SEN. NELSON** moved RECONSIDER ACTION ON **HB000266.ARL**. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: **SEN. NELSON** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000266.ARL** BE ADOPTED. Motion carried 5-1 with **BERGSAGEL** voting no.

Motion: **REP. ZOOK** moved **ACTION ON AMENDMENT HB000261.ARL** BE RECONSIDERED. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: **REP. ZOOK** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000261.ARL** BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Pat Graham, DFWP, explained **SB 381** created a poacher school to be used as a deterrent for offenders. **Mr. Graham** felt the school would work and the problem was most offenders were not aware of law changes.

The committee made several comments regarding the effectiveness of the program.

REP. ZOOK felt this should be a one time only appropriation and asked the amendment to be amended to reflect that.

Vote: Motion carried 5-1 with Nelson voting no.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1:35}

Motion: **REP. ZOOK** moved that **AMENDMENT HB000265.ALS EXHIBIT(frs83hb0002a07)** BE ADOPTED.

Discussion:

Laurie Ekanger, Department of Public Health and Human Services, explained the House Appropriation Committee amended the bill, however the language was not removed.

Vote: Motion **carried unanimously.**

REP. ZOOK asked if the speed limit signs were going to be metric. **John Blacker**, Department of Transportation, advised the signs were not going to be metric. The department did not have any metric highway signs. **SEN. MOHL** explained the plans were registered in metric, but the actual signs were not printed in metric.

REP. BERGSAGEL asked how the money to fund the signs was appropriated. **Mr. Blacker** advised it was appropriated in **SB 133.**

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 2:35 P.M.

SEN. CHUCK SWYSGOOD, Chairman

SHANNON GLEASON, Secretary

CS/SG

EXHIBIT (frs83hb0002aad)